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BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH ON GENERAL REINHARD GEHLEN

General Reinhard Gehlen is President of the West German Federal Intelligence Service. (END).

Born 3 April 1902 in Erfurt, Germany, he finished his formal schooling in 1920 and entered military service directly, receiving his commission in 1923. Attending the War Academy in Berlin in 1936, he became a major in 1939, a brigadier general in 1944.

In charge of Foreign Armies-East in 1943, he came to believe the German cause on the Eastern front was lost. Reprimanded by Hitler for his negative opinions, he was ultimately dismissed toward the War's end. After caching his files in Bavaria, he surrendered to the Americans.

Reforming his unit, General Gehlen operated under G-2 auspices from 1946 until 1949 when CIA assumed sponsorship. The Gehlen Organization was legalized as the West German Service in March 1956.

General Gehlen has expanded his activities to the point that his organization has been accepted as a worldwide service. Expected to retire within the next two or three years, he lives quietly with his wife in Berg on the Starnberg Lake near Munich. He speaks good English.

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